

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, this Thanksgiving is expected to be the most expensive in history due to skyrocketing inflation. Americans are also being warned that their Christmas presents will cost more and might not arrive on time due to the supply chain disruptions. I hope that doesn't happen.

President Biden's and House Democrats' out-of-control spending policies are to blame for both the economic and supply chain woes. To make matters worse, they are now pushing a made-in-America tax, which will only drive businesses and jobs overseas and further devastate our troubled economy.

There are plenty of signs that our economy is significantly struggling, unfortunately. Most recently, the GDP growth decelerated to 2 percent in the third quarter. This is the slowest growth rate since the start of the pandemic-era recovery. Real disposable personal income also decreased another 5.6 percent in the third quarter after decreasing a staggering 30.2 percent in the second quarter.

We must reverse course and abandon these irresponsible policies rather than continuing to compound the economic pain.

#### BUILD BACK BETTER AGENDA

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in strong support of President Biden's Build Back Better agenda.

Last November, the American people sent us to Washington to create more jobs, cut taxes, and lower costs for middle class families, and we are ready to deliver.

The Build Back Better agenda will lower healthcare costs for families across my district and across the country, cut taxes for more than 35 million working families, and expand high-quality home healthcare for millions of older Americans and Americans with disabilities.

As the President also returns from the U.N. Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, we have an opportunity to pass a \$550 billion investment in fighting climate change and transitioning to a green economy.

We simply do not have time to spare. The American people are counting on us. Let's get this done.

#### GIVING AMNESTY TO MILLIONS OF ILLEGAL ALIENS

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to address the Build Back Better bill. Earlier this week the Border Patrol announced that they had

found 557 bodies of people who were trying to get into this country last year. That is more than double what it was a year ago.

I am shocked that after finding all these bodies, either dehydrating in the heat, drowning in the Rio Grande, or falling off the 30-foot high fence, that they still are doing all they can to cause illegal immigration in this country.

In particular, in this bill, you are still trying to give amnesty to millions of people, which acts as a magnet for people to come here. You are still trying to give free college tuition to people who come in this country illegally, while the middle class in this country—who you apparently don't care for—goes tens of thousands of dollars in debt to get that degree.

This is happening all at the time that President Biden is apparently negotiating giving families, who try to come here illegally, \$450,000.

Please, majority party, give up on this horrible Build Back Better bill, which is just one more effort to transform and change America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN). Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

#### CONGRATULATING THE ATLANTA BRAVES ON WINNING THE 2021 WORLD SERIES

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and applaud the 2021 World Series Champions, the Atlanta Braves. I am enormously proud of the Atlanta Braves, their players, their coaches, and especially their fans for their determination and resiliency on a long road to this championship title.

The last time the Braves won the World Series was 1995. I can finally say that my Atlanta Braves are champions once again. With the World Series victory, the Braves completed one of history's greatest championship turn-arounds.

Plagued by injuries to their best pitcher and outfielder, the Braves had a losing record in August. Through much adversity, the Braves relied on a number of players and others who helped them to regain the World Series title.

As Braves fans in Georgia and around the world celebrate, I congratulate this team on a remarkable season, a 2021 World Series title, and a place in the history books.

The city and people of Atlanta, the great State of Georgia, and the great Braves nation will be forever grateful to the 2021 Atlanta Braves for breaking the curse and winning it all.

The Atlanta Braves are the World Series champions.

Go Braves.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to maintain proper decorum while in the Chamber.

#### EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ARE CRYSTAL CLEAR

(Mr. KAHELE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KAHELE. Madam Speaker, we face a now-or-never moment to reverse the severe consequences of the climate crisis. Our narrow margin to avert catastrophe is shrinking, and right now, Democrats hold the power to enact aggressive policies to turn that tide. Failing to meet the moment in the Build Back Better Act is frankly a non-starter.

In my home State of Hawaii, the devastating effects of climate change are crystal clear. Each year, we experience unprecedented flooding, which causes landslides, washes out bridges, and creates dam failures; rising sea levels that lead to coastal erosion are visible along every island; and warming waters that cause widespread coral bleaching that kill our fish populations and threaten our economy.

As we face these challenges, Hawaii has been a leader in green energy sources, including geothermal, ocean, solar, and hydro-energy. However, while my State can do its part, we need a robust national effort if we are to sustain our planet for future generations.

Madam Speaker, the global climate crisis is our greatest national security threat, and I urge all my colleagues to answer the call to action by passing the Build Back Better Act.

#### RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL GRAIN AND FEED ASSOCIATION

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Grain and Feed Association as they celebrate 125 years of supporting every facet of the agricultural value chain.

Established as one of the first industry-based arbitration systems in North America, NGFA has transformed American farmers' bounties into safe, nutrition, sustainable, and affordable human and animal food.

The National Grain and Feed Association is a nonprofit trade association that serves more than 1,000 companies and 7,500 facilities. They continue to advocate for grain, feed, and processing interests of the complete value chain and promote the competitiveness of the United States of America.

In order to recognize this great achievement, House Agriculture Committee Chairman DAVID SCOTT and I introduced a resolution celebrating the 125th anniversary celebrating the efforts of the NGFA in transforming the American farmer's bounty.

Madam Speaker, the National Grain and Feed Association has longstanding history and notoriety for their continual efforts toward supporting American producers and ensuring their competitiveness in agriculture.

Madam Speaker, I want to say congratulations on 125 years.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, November 3, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 3, 2021, at 9:57 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 1510.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 2093.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,  
Clerk.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### FISCAL STATE OF THE NATION RESOLUTION

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 44) providing for a joint hearing of the Committees on the Budget of the House of Representatives and the Senate to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the audited financial statement of the executive branch, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 44

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This resolution may be cited as the "Fiscal State of the Nation Resolution".

#### SEC. 2. ANNUAL JOINT HEARING OF BUDGET COMMITTEES TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION BY THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 45 days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) after the date on which the Secretary

of the Treasury submits to Congress the audited financial statement required under paragraph (1) of section 331(e) of title 31, United States Code, on a date agreed upon by the chairs of the Committees on the Budget of the House of Representatives and the Senate (hereafter referred to as the "Budget Committees") and the Comptroller General of the United States, the Budget Committees shall hold a joint hearing (hereafter referred to as the "Joint Hearing") to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General reviewing the findings of the audit required under paragraph (2) of such section and providing, with respect to the information included by the Secretary in the report accompanying such audited financial statement, an analysis of the financial position and condition of the Federal Government, including financial measures (such as the net operating cost, income, budget deficits, or budget surpluses) and sustainability measures (such as the long-term fiscal projection or social insurance projection) described in such report.

(b) PRESENTATION OF STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAO STRATEGIES AND MEANS.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall ensure that the presentation at the Joint Hearing is made in accordance with the Strategies and Means of the Government Accountability Office, so that the presentation will provide professional, objective, fact-based, nonpartisan, nonideological, fair, and balanced information to the members attending the Joint Hearing.

(c) RULES APPLICABLE TO JOINT HEARING.—(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), the Joint Hearing shall be subject to rules agreed to by the chairs of the Budget Committees.

(2) OPEN HEARING.—The Joint Hearing shall be open to the public, including to radio, television, and still photography coverage.

(3) ATTENDANCE.—The Joint Hearing shall accommodate non-participatory attendance by any Senator and any Member of the House of Representatives, including any Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The requirement under subsection (a) shall apply with respect to any audited financial statement submitted on or after the date of the enactment of this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I don't have to tell you that these are partisan times. We don't often get to consider something that is supported by both Democrats on the Rules Committee and Republicans on the Rules Committee. Not only that, an idea that was also recommended by the truly bipartisan Se-

lect Committee on the Modernization of the Congress.

That is what we have before us with H. Con. Res. 44, the Fiscal State of the Nation Resolution.

This measure from Congresswoman RICE of New York is coming before us at an especially important time, a time that finds us discussing matters like the debt ceiling, government spending, transportation, and reconciliation legislation.

It requires the director of the Government Accountability Office to deliver an annual address to a joint hearing of the House and Senate Budget Committees on the financial position and condition of the Federal Government.

Members of the media would be able to cover the hearing so the American people and not just the Members of Congress can better understand the realities about what we face today; all with the goal, Madam Speaker, of promoting greater transparency surrounding our Nation's fiscal health. That way, we have more clarity as Congress makes spending decisions in the months and years ahead that will impact every single American.

A companion measure has already been introduced in the United States Senate, since the House alone cannot tell our friends on the other side of the Capitol what to do; although, I must admit, sometimes I wish we could, Madam Speaker.

There are more than 100 cosponsors of this resolution. As I said earlier, the Select Committee on the Modernization of the Congress has already recommended this concept in their final report of the 116th Congress. I think that is because of a simple reason: We all want to make the most informed spending decisions and develop the most sensible ways to combat our debt.

You can't properly address these issues unless you fully understand them. With this resolution, through the work of the House and Senate Budget Committees, we can all better understand the fiscal reality that we face.

Don't get me wrong, Madam Speaker, I am sure we will still have many debates on this floor about what to do in response. I sure as hell would never support anything that punishes the very Americans who can least afford it.

For example, when we talk about fiscal health, I want us to acknowledge that America's tax code rewards wealth and power at the expense of working families. There has been a dramatic reduction in taxes paid by the very rich in this country over the last 60 years.

So when some say all we need to do is cut, cut, cut, I have to say I get a little confused. I think cutting Medicare, privatizing Social Security, and slashing funding for important programs that help working families is an awful idea.

Instead, I want those at the top to contribute their fair share and pay it